

NOTES AND NEWS.

CHARLES OTIS WHITMAN, a Member of the American Ornithologists' Union, and an eminent teacher and investigator, died at his home in Chicago, of pneumonia, on December 6, 1910, at the age of 68 years. He was born at Woodstock, Maine, December 14, 1842. He was graduated at Bowdoin College in 1868, and received his A. M. degree from the same college in 1871. Afterwards he studied abroad, receiving the degree of Ph.D. from Leipzig University in 1878. In 1879 he was a Fellow at Johns Hopkins University, and Professor of Zoölogy at the Imperial University of Japan, 1880-81. He studied at the Naples Zoölogical Station in 1882, and was later Assistant in Zoölogy at Harvard University (1883-85), Director of the Allis Lake Laboratory (1886-89), Professor of Zoölogy at Clark University (1889-92), and head of the Department of Zoölogy and Curator of the Zoölogical Museum at the University of Chicago from 1892 till his decease. He was also Director of the Marine Biological Station at Woods Hole, Mass., from 1888 till 1908.

Dr. Whitman was a pioneer in developing modern methods of experimental research in zoölogy, and a leader in this field. To his ability and influence as a teacher and his resourcefulness in devising methods of attacking difficult problems in evolution many of the younger school of experimental biologists are greatly indebted for inspiration and guidance. He was also the founder and for many years the editor of the 'Journal of Morphology,' and was on the editorial staff of the 'Biological Bulletin' and other kindred publications. The results of his investigations were chiefly made known in his lectures on Biology (afterwards published) and in special papers. Among the leading subjects that occupied his attention are morphology, embryology, heredity, hybridization, and animal behavior. He devoted much time to the study of the evolution of color characters in Pigeons and to the natural history of this group of birds. He was elected to the National Academy of Sciences in 1895, and was also a member of the American Philosophical Society and the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, and the recipient of honorary degrees from various universities. A man of unusually attractive personality, he leaves a wide circle of friends to mourn his death, which is a heavy loss to science.

MANLY HARDY, a well-known naturalist, and for many years an Associate Member of the American Ornithologist's Union, died at his home in Brewer, Maine, December 9, 1910, at the age of 78 years and 28 days. He was born in Hampden, Maine, November 11, 1832, an only son of Jonathan T. Hardy. Four years later the family moved to Brewer, Maine, and seven years later into the house on Wilson Street which has since been the home of the family, and has become so well known to many students of natural history through their visits to the subject of this biographical notice.

For a time Manly Hardy attended the common schools of Brewer, but was later a pupil in the private classes of the late Rev. George W. Field, D. D. At this early period of his life he contemplated a career in foreign lands as a missionary, but an injury to his eyes compelled him to abandon this desire; but he maintained throughout life a strong interest in religious work. With the development of ill health he sought the woods of his native State for recuperation, where he spent much of his time for many years, finally becoming an extensive fur buyer and large shipper of furs to foreign markets. This life brought him into close association with trappers and woodsmen, mainly Indians and "silent white men." Under such environment he acquired a keen insight into nature's secrets, and became an authority on the language and traditions of the Indians with whom he was thus brought into close association. For a time, in 1861, he was connected with the Maine State Scientific Survey.

In the words of a local biographer: "Early in life Mr. Hardy began to take a lively interest in the birds, but it was not till he was over 40 years of age that he began his collection. When in 1890 he gave up active business, he devoted more and more of his attention to adding rare and unusual specimens to what is regarded as one of the finest private collections of mounted and unmounted bird skins in the country." His collection, it is said, embraces nearly every species of North American bird, and numbers some 3,300 specimens, mostly mounted by himself.

His interest in wild life and his intimate knowledge of birds and animals brought him into close association with many prominent naturalists, among them being the late Major Bendire, to whose work on the 'Life Histories of North American Birds' Mr. Hardy contributed much valuable information. He was not, however, much given to making public record of his observations. Between 1878 and 1889 he was an occasional contributor to the 'Bulletin' of the Nuttall Ornithological Club and 'The Auk,' but his natural history communications were mainly published in 'Forest and Stream,' to which well known journal he was a valued contributor of natural history articles for nearly forty years. These were generally instigated by some erroneous statement by others in the columns of his favorite medium of communication, and with facile and vigorous pen he then drew freely upon his store of positive fact concerning the matters at issue.

Mr. Hardy was elected an Associate Member of the American Ornithologists' Union at its first meeting and he retained this membership till 1901. He was also a member of the Bangor Historical Society. He was held in high esteem by all who knew him, and his acts of charity and goodwill will be long remembered by those whose good fortune it was to know him personally. His end came suddenly, although not unexpectedly, after little more than a day's illness. Of his five children still living, one, Mrs. Fanny Hardy Ecstorm, is well known to readers of 'The Auk' through her important contributions to ornithological literature.

IT IS with deep regret that we announce the serious illness of Mr. William Dutcher, President of the National Association of Audubon Societies, who was stricken with apoplexy at his home in Plainfield, New Jersey, on October 19 last. This was followed by a long period of unconsciousness and by paralysis of the right side. No complications having ensued, his physicians have hope of his continued improvement.

MR. ROY C. ANDREWS, Assistant in Mammalogy at the American Museum of Natural History, has recently returned from a trip around the world in the interests of the Museum. He joined the scientific staff of the 'Albatross' in the Philippines in October, 1909, visiting during the next five months various parts of the Dutch East Indies. During this cruise he made an important collection of birds and mammals, besides obtaining much valuable anthropological and other natural history material. Later, after the close of the 'Albatross' cruise, he spent six months in Japan at the whaling stations, and secured skeletons of nearly all the species of large whales and of some of the dolphins that frequent the coast of Japan.

THE American Museum of Natural History Stefánsson-Anderson Expedition to Arctic America left New York in April, 1908, for several years of research in zoölogy and anthropology along the Arctic coast, Dr. R. M. Anderson being in special charge of the zoölogical work. During 1909 they explored westward to beyond the Colville River, and in 1910 returned eastward to study the coast district as far as the Coppermine River. Notwithstanding many difficulties and much hardship, their work has been to a large degree successful. A few weeks since the collections made in 1909 have reached the Museum, and include several hundred bird skins, many nests and eggs, and a valuable collection of mammals, among which are good series of white sheep and Barren Ground caribou.

IN THE April Number of this journal (*Auk*, XXVII, 1910, pp. 241, 242) reference was made to the Kuser Asiatic Expedition, under the auspices of the New York Zoölogical Society, giving some account of its organization and purposes, and announcing the sailing of Mr. C. William Beebe and Mrs. Beebe for London, en route to India. They were joined in London by Mr. Bruce Horsfall as artist, and the party sailed direct for Ceylon. After several weeks spent in Ceylon, a visit was made to the Darjiling district of the Himalayas, and later to Borneo and Burma. Mr. Horsfall returned in August, 1910, but Mr. and Mrs. Beebe will remain till probably June or later of the present year, extending their work to Cochin China, and probably also to Formosa, Sumatra and Java. Thus far they have met with excellent success in obtaining specimens of the Pheasants of the regions visited, and in investigations of the life histories and ecology of the Phasianidæ, which are the primary objects of the expedition.

SEVERAL American naturalists are at present making collections of birds and mammals in different parts of Venezuela and other portions of northern South America, Mr. M. A. Carriker, Jr., being in northern Venezuela, in the interests of the Carnegie Museum of Pittsburgh and the American Museum of Natural History, and Mr. Wilfred H. Osgood in the interest of the Field Museum of Chicago; Mr. William B. Richardson is collecting in western Colombia for the American Museum, and the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia will soon have representatives in eastern Venezuela. Mr. S. H. Rhoads is also about to visit Ecuador to collect mammals and birds in the higher parts of the Andes.

FOR some time past a Biological Survey of the Panama Canal Zone has been under consideration, to be carried out under the direction of the Smithsonian Institution. The plans for the survey having now been matured, and the necessary financial support secured, several well-known biologists are already on their way to begin the work. The importance of such a survey is evident, the fauna and flora of the region being at present not well known, while it is certain that considerable changes must result from the completion of the canal, when the organisms of the various watersheds will be able to mingle, and existing biologic conditions be considerably modified. In order to determine the nature and extent of these changes it is necessary to secure full knowledge of the present fauna and flora. In carrying forward the survey the gathering of birds and mammals will be under the direction of Mr. E. A. Goldman of the Biological Survey; Mr. S. E. Meek, of the Field Museum of Chicago, and Mr. S. F. Hildebrand of the Bureau of Fisheries will have charge of the field work in connection with reptiles and fishes, and also make collections of mollusks and crustaceans; Messrs. E. A. Schwartz and Mr. August Busck of the U. S. National Museum and the Bureau of Entomology will be in charge of the entomological work, and other departments will be in charge of experts from other Government Bureaus. It is to be hoped that the survey will be well sustained financially, and the results of the work all that could be desired.